

# Averell and Pamela Harriman's grip on American policy-making in the 1980s

by Robert Zubrin

Today, at age 91, Averell Harriman totters at the head of a vast political empire of Eastern Establishment institutions. It is through this empire that Harriman has been able to take control of the national leadership of the Democratic Party, and enforce upon that party a set of zero-growth and genocidal policies wholly alien to the Democratic Party's base among workers and minorities. It is through this empire that Harriman has been able to hand-pick virtually every senior cabinet member and advisory office holder of the Kennedy, Johnson, and Carter administrations, and determined their policies, including the creation of the Vietnam War in the 1960's, and the Carter policies of energy conservation, *Global 2000* depopulation, and high interest rates in the 1980s. As a result of Harriman's control, the Democratic National Committee today continues to block any effective action against the depression-causing policies of Carter-Harriman appointee Federal Reserve Chairman Paul A. Volcker.

Aside from direct control of such wholly owned Harriman pets as Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan (D-N.Y.), Harriman's key channels of policy-making influence include:

*The New York Council on Foreign Relations.* Founded in 1919 as the U.S. branch of the Royal Institute of International Affairs for the purpose of running the United States according to the dictates of British foreign policy, the CFR remains today the top controller of American political life. Harriman is a member, and is well-represented in the Council by a large faction of his followers, alongside those of the Morgan, the Rockefeller, and the Kuhn-Loeb/Lehman Brothers groupings. Harriman acts as a significant input into CFR policy deliberations, and as an output channel through which CFR decisions are imposed as policy on the Democratic Party. Harriman maintains a similar relationship with the more recently founded Trilateral Commission.

*The American Assembly.* This privately owned stable of Harriman CFR members meets regularly at Arden House, the Harriman mansion in Harriman, New York. Current and recent members of the American Assembly include such former members of the U.S. Executive Branch as George Ball, Hubert Humphrey, C. Douglas Dillion, Marriner Ec-

cles, William Bundy, and Clifford Hardin. The list also includes Milton Eisenhower, Citibank Chairman Walter Wriston's father Henry Wriston, newspaper magnate John Cowles, Club of Rome member Sol Linowitz, and *Washington Post* editor Katharine Graham.

In 1963, Harriman and the American Assembly hosted a reunion of pre-World War II Eugenics Society personnel, to discuss how to make eugenic "population control" the basis of U.S. foreign policy toward the non-Nordic nations of the developing sector. This conference included Frank Lorimer, Frank Notestein, Dudley Kirk, and Phillip Hauser.

*The Democratic Strategy Council.* Formerly known as the Democratic Advisory Council, which was founded by Harriman and John Kenneth Galbraith in 1956, the DSC is an official institution of the Democratic Party and fulfills the function of translating CFR policy into domestic legislation and foreign policy recommendations for Democratic Congressmen, mayors, governors, and the party's Platform Committee. Created over the stiff opposition of Democratic Congressmen, the DSC has served to rob both Democratic Party machines and their constituents of any real influence over the party's policy. Present and recent leaders of its foreign and domestic sections have included:

*W. Averell Harriman*, Chairman for foreign affairs;  
*George Ball*, CFR, American Assembly, Draper Fund;  
*Clark Clifford*, CFR, architect of Nixon impeachment;  
*Orville Freeman*, CFR, former Agriculture Secretary, Draper Fund/Population Crisis Committee;  
*John Kenneth Galbraith*, economist, Draper Fund;  
*Arthur Goldberg*, CFR, former aide to New York Governor Harriman, former Secretary of Labor;  
*Samuel Huntington*, CFR, Trilateral Commission;  
*Sol Linowitz*, CFR, American Assembly, President, Xerox Corporation;  
*Nicholas de B. Katzenbach*, CFR, Institute for Policy Studies, former Attorney General;  
*Dean Rusk*, CFR, Harriman choice for Secretary of State;  
*Paul Nitze*, CFR, Reagan arms negotiator;  
*Zbigniew Brzezinski*, CFR, Trilateral Commission, chief

of Carter National Security Council;

*Cyrus Vance*, CFR, former Secretary of State, author, *Global 2000 Report*;

*Paul Warnke*, CFR, Carter arms negotiator;

*Robert Roosa*, CFR, partner Brown Brothers Harriman, Carter economic advisor.

*The Brookings Institution*. Founded by a grouping of Council on Foreign Relations interests in the 1920s, the Brookings Institution today is almost entirely controlled by Harriman personnel, and functions as the authoritative source for austerity and anti-growth recommendations packaged in liberal garb for government agencies and the Democratic Party. Institution trustees include:

*C. Douglas Dillon*, Kennedy's Treasury Secretary;

*Robert S. McNamara*, Kennedy's Defense Secretary;

*William McChesney Martin*, former Federal Reserve chief;

*Gerard C. Smith*, North American Secretary of the Trilateral Commission;

Top staff members of the Brookings Institution include Carter advisers *Henry Owen* and *Charles Schultz*, and *Leslie Gelb* of the *New York Times*, Harriman's leading press outlet.

*The Center for National Policy*. Chaired by *Cyrus Vance*, this small think-tank functions as Harriman's personal policy-formulating center. Its director include:

*W. Michael Blumenthal*, former Treasury Secretary;

*Warren Christopher*, former Undersecretary of State;

*Stuart Eizenstat*, Carter's domestic policy adviser;

*Lloyd Cutler*, Carter White House Counsel;

*Ray Marshall*, former Labor Secretary;

*Edmund Muskie*, former Secretary of State;

*Felix Rohatyn*, Lazard Freres banking house;

*Glen Watts*, Club of Rome, Trilateral Commission, and chief of Communications Workers of America.

*Democrats for the '80s*. This "political action committee" functions as the chief vehicle for spreading Harriman money and influence around the Democratic Party. Its offices are located inside Harriman's Washington, D.C. townhouse, and it is chaired by Harriman's wife, the former Mrs. Winston Churchill II. Pamela Harriman's reputed lover, former Democratic National Committee Chairman Robert Strauss, sits on the board, along with House Speaker Tip O'Neill, Edmund Muskie, and Stuart Eizenstat. At the May 25 Democratic Party midterm convention in Philadelphia, Democrats for the '80s circulated a resolution urging that "America's long-standing leadership in confronting the population threat should be maintained."

Harriman controls numerous other political action committees, including the National Committee for an Effective Congress, headed by Russell Hemingway and Bishop Paul Moore of the Cathedral of St. John Divine in New York; ProPAC, headed by Socialist International operative Victor Kamber; Ted Kennedy's Fund for a Democratic Majority; George McGovern's Americans for Common Sense; Morris Udall's Independent Action; and Walter Mondale's Com-

mittee for the Future of America.

*The disarmament, environmentalist and population control movements*. In early 1982, Harriman operatives Robert S. McNamara, George Kennan, Gerard Smith, and McGeorge Bundy called jointly for a no-first-use of nuclear arms by the United States. This publicity stunt was picked up by the Harriman controlled *New York Times* and *Washington Post*, to launch a national nuclear freeze movement. With the help of the many "grassroots" fronts established by the Harriman-controlled Institute for Policy Studies, a training ground for left-wing activists and terrorists headed by Marcus Raskin and Richard Barnett (both of whom got their start in Harriman's Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, 500,000 people were brought to New York City June to demonstrate against nuclear technology and weapons.

In 1969, Harriman used similar tactics to create the "environmentalist" movement virtually out of thin air, with press noise about Earth Day. Large sums of money from Rockefeller Foundation (Robert Roosa, Cyrus Vance, trustees) and Ford Foundation (Robert McNamara, McGeorge Bundy, trustees) were funneled into this project. Its intersection with the radical student movement of the 1960s was used by Harriman to create a left-wing movement inside the Democratic Party, aimed against the constituency-based machines of party traditionalists. Harriman's backing for Tom Hayden's proto-fascist, environmentalist Campaign for Economic Democracy in California, an insurgency which threatens to take over the party machine in that state, is one example of this tactic.

The population control movement is a Harriman creation which predates both environmentalism and anti-nuclear movement, going all the way back to the Harriman family's promotion of Nazi eugenics in the United States before World War II. In the 1960s, Harriman used his control of the Kennedy and Johnson administrations to make genocide U.S. foreign policy, under the guise of population control, through the Vietnam War. For this operation, The Draper Fund's Population Crisis Committee was the major control point. Harriman protégés George Ball, Robert McNamara, C. Douglas Dillon, William McChesney Martin, Ellsworth Bunker, Richard Gardner, Gen. Maxwell Taylor, and Gen. William Westmoreland are all members of this committee. The basic policy was that neither a quick victory nor a quick retreat would be permitted.

*Law firms*. The Harriman circle maintains a powerful grip on members of the government, corporate, and political party elite through its control of a number of top Wall Street law firms. These include: Arnold and Porter; Clifford, Warnke, Glass, McIlwain and Finney; Corcoran, Youngman and Rowe; Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver and Kampelman; Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton, and Garrison; Coudert Brothers; Covington and Burling; Cravath, Swain and Moore; Milbank, Tweed, Hadley and McCloy; Sullivan and Cromwell; Williams, Connally and Califano; Simpson, Thatcher and Bartlett; and Wilmer, Cutler, and Pickering.